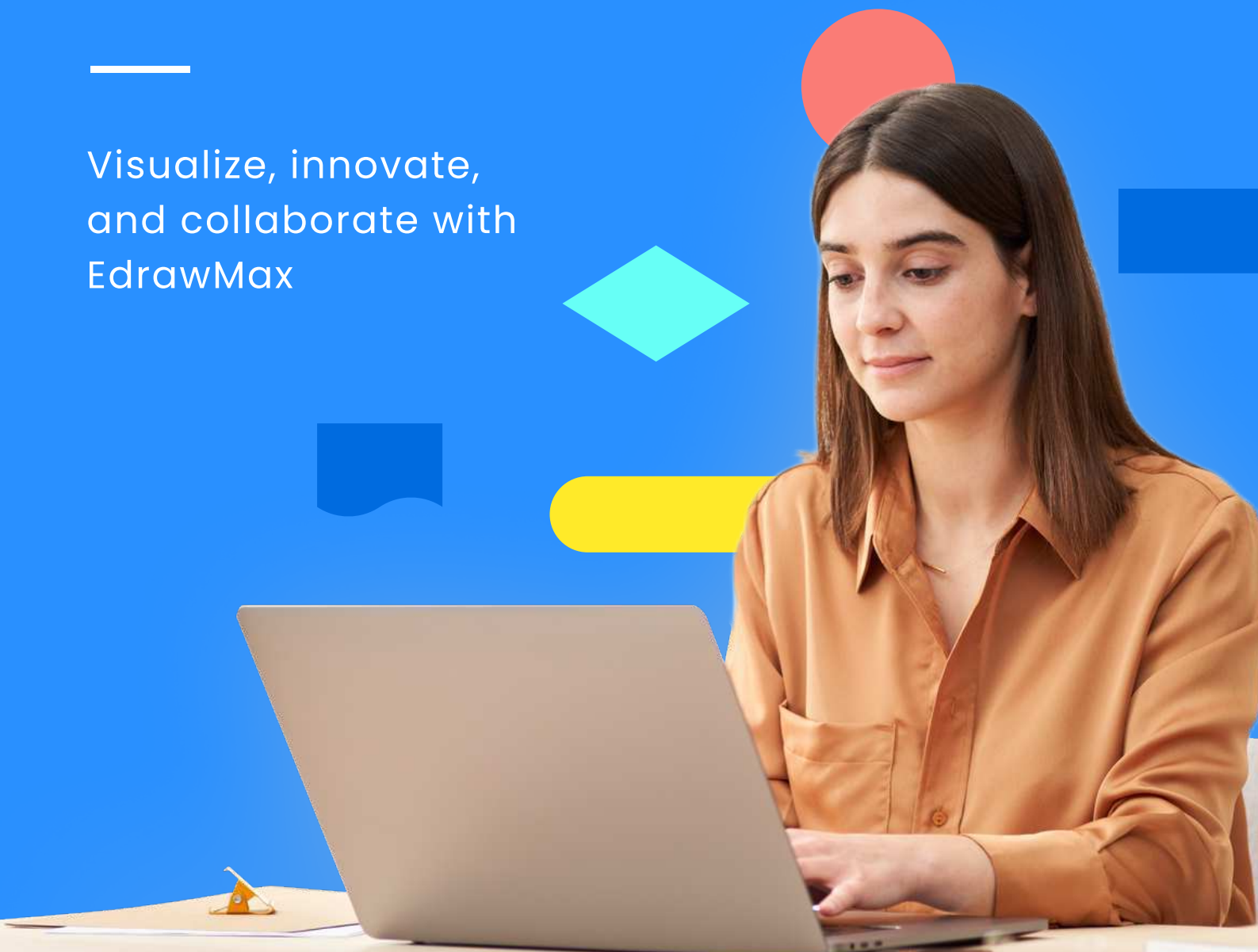


Flowchart Symbols and Meanings



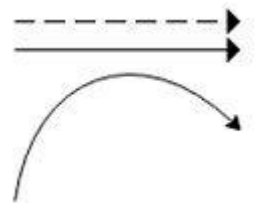
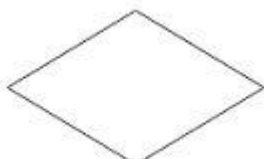
Diagram For All

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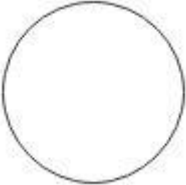


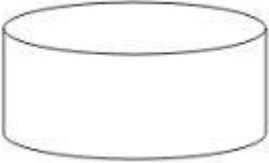


Flowchart Symbols and Meanings









1. The 4 Most Important Flowchart Symbols



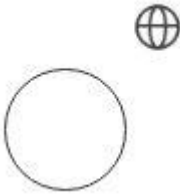
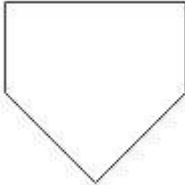
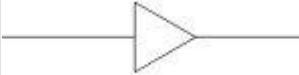

Symbol	Name	Description
	Process Symbol	It is depicted by a rectangle symbol and represents any vital process or step in the flowchart.
	Start/End Symbol	It is also known as a terminator symbol and is drawn at the starting and the ending of the flowchart (before the first process and after the final results).
	Flowlines	These are directional lines that simply depict the flow of processes from one step to another.
	Decision Symbol	A rhombus depicts a decision in a flowchart (a this-or-that or an if-then condition). It can break the flow of your diagram into two or more directions.

2. Standard Flowchart Symbols and Their Meaning

Symbol	Name	Description
	Document	This represents the existence of any document in the flowchart (that could be stored in the database).

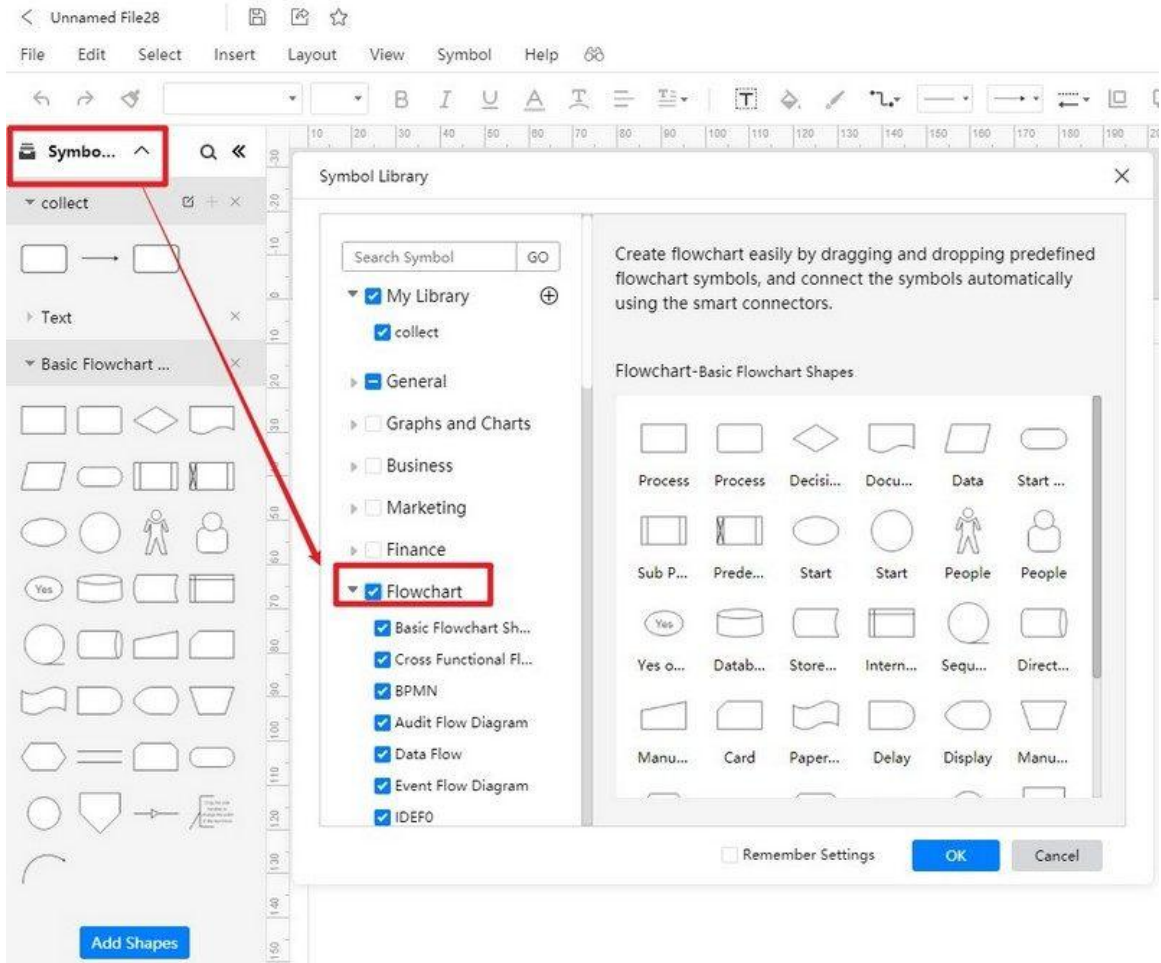
	Data	The tilted rectangle represents data (any piece of content in the flowchart).
	Sub-process	The symbol can be used to depict a set of steps that can be combined to form a sub-process.
	Predefined Process	This is used to depict a named process that can be defined elsewhere in the diagram.
	Start	Unlike the terminal, the circle can only be used to depict the starting of the flowchart.
	People/User	The icon is used to depict people or end-users who interact with the overall process (mostly used at terminals).
	Condition (Yes/No)	The symbol depicts a conditional (yes or no) logic in the diagram.
	Database	The disc icon is used to represent the presence of a database (internal or external) in the flowchart.
	Stored Data	The symbol can represent any piece of data that is stored in the machine.
	Internal Storage	It is used to depict the internal storage unit in the machine.

	Sequential Data	The icon represents the sequential storage of data in the machine. It looks like magnetic tape.
	Direct Data	The symbol implies that the stored data can directly be accessed.
	Manual Input	The flowchart symbol represents a stage when manual input has been provided or is needed by the user.
	Card	This symbol is rarely used and depicts the presence of a memory card in the machine.
	Paper Tape	This represents the presence of punched or paper tape in the machine.
	Delay	The symbol represents any expected or unexpected delay in the process.
	Display	It simply represents the display of data (or any other entity) in the flowchart and is mostly used at terminal ends.
	Manual Operation	The icon is inserted whenever any manual operation is needed in the process flow.

	<p>Preparation</p>	<p>The symbol is used to depict any process or entity that is in the preparation state.</p>
	<p>Loop Limit</p>	<p>This is used to depict the limit on the looping of any process (that controls it from getting into an infinite loop).</p>
	<p>On-page Reference</p>	<p>This is used as a connector to refer to your flowchart on the same page.</p>
	<p>Off-page Reference</p>	<p>This can be used as a connector for your flowchart on a different page.</p>
	<p>Control Transfer</p>	<p>It depicts the transfer of control in the flow chart. That is, the control has been forwarded to any other step instead of the arbitrary step.</p>
	<p>Annotations</p>	<p>The symbol can depict any comment or annotation in the flowchart. Whenever you want to add any comment, just use an extended line on the side and write the comment in a box.</p>

3. How to Use Flowchart Symbols?

Try to use a professional flowchart maker like EdrawMax. Here you can access EdrawMax Online directly. And from its Flowchart Symbols Library, you can get all the needed symbols and icons for creating flowcharts.





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